

WM. M. OVERTON, CH. MAURICE SMITH,
AND BEVERLY TUCKER.

MARCH 10, 1855.

All letters on business should be addressed to "The Sentinel Office," Washington.

We publish, this morning, all the essential features of the Civil and Diplomatic bill passed at the last session of Congress. It is interesting and worthy the attention of our readers. It abounds in information that all should be possessed of.

NEW YORK POLICE—RETURNING REASON.

It has been but a few months since the newspapers in every part of the country teemed with articles on New York politics. Men who never dreamed of but two parties before, were, by incessant iteration and reiteration, familiarized with the ugly and outlandish names that distinguished the political nomenclature of the Empire State. There were not only Whigs and Democrats, but of the former there were Woolly Heads and Silver Greys—of the latter, Hards and Softs. There were Abolitionists and Free-soilers. There were "Free Democrats," the worst form of abolitionists. There were Temperance men and Shoulder Strikers. There was every *ism* that human ingenuity can invent, and every phase that human optics can discern. New York, the Empire State, and New York, the Empire City, presented a more diversified aspect than a rag carpet, a tessellated pavement, or a flower garden, ever exhibited. There was one, and but one, distinct color wanting, and that was the virgin white of honesty.

That there were honest men, we know; but the battle was for the spoils. The great majority in all parties, and all divisions, were spoilsmen. In what they called the "rural districts," there were many honest men, but New York city is to the country what Paris is to the French provinces. New York city and New York politicians have a controlling power in the "rural districts."

New York and New York politicians have done much—more than all other cities and all other politicians, to dissolve the cement that holds parties together. They have done more to destroy confidence in political integrity—to uproot sound and wholesome doctrines, to undermine honest principles and fundamental political truths, than all the other places and people put together.

We must say, and such outside of New York is the universal impression, that New York politics have for some time past been *spoils* politics. The best and most honest party there—the Democratic party—has been broken down by the love of spoils. The best division of that party, the Hards, attempted to trade even, upon the doctrine of State Rights. All men look to the outside world for sympathy, and they looked to the people outside of New York for countenance and support. They out-heroded Herod. They affected to be better slavery men than the people of the Southern States. Their object was to bring to bear in their favor the influence of a southern pressure. It is most true that their antecedents were much fairer than those of their adversaries, the Softs. They had a cleaner and a clearer record. They presumed upon that record, and in the excitement of a political contest that involved the issues of life and death, they even chided Southern Democrats for not standing by them.

But the pinch came. In their State elections they had a candidate who not only had maintained, but also had made, their issues, and who, they said, in his life and conduct had ever illustrated the best virtues and the highest attributes of manhood. How did they treat him? Instead of casting their full vote for him, they gave him a mean and miserable support. They refused to uphold the issues they had made, and backed out from the support of the candidate of their choice.

Some thousands—perhaps thirty thousand—had the manliness and the virtue to stand by him. The rest deserted and distributed themselves among the different organizations of that State. By pursuing the course—the devious and tortuous course—that the Politicians of New York have pursued—they have degraded the wealthiest and most populous State in the Union into the merest political cypher.

We are gratified to see that an effort is now on foot to reunite the hitherto discordant sections of the Democratic party, in order that they may present an unbroken front against the common enemy.

Verily a crisis is at hand, and if those who pretend to be Democrats, in New York, will but unite and forget past differences, they will be enabled to control the State, and will regain the position that they lost by dissension.

We find in the New York papers of the 8th instant, full reports of a union meeting of the Democrats; and although most of the controlling agents were those known as Softs, we learn that the meeting challenged the sympathy of the Hards. It is indeed time that they should unite.

The chairman, in his address, congratulated the meeting on the burial of the hatchet. He said:

"It is gratifying to look around on an audience now assembled here unparalleled in the history of Democratic triumph. This looks as if the different shells of the Democracy are now to be broken, and we have it in our power to accomplish it, especially with such masses at our back. If we have prejudices, let us meet each other half way. When the polls of the election were closed, this was the place we assembled to hear the triumph of one cause. Not so in latter years; the lights have been dimmed—not a voice has been heard. Will this be so? (Cries of 'No, no.') I am glad of that response. I will now give way to some of those old sentinels who have bravely stood on the ramparts of Democracy, and have come to us from abroad where there are no shells known in the Democratic ranks.

The following resolutions were then adopted. Resolved, That we the Union Democrats of New York, meeting here to-night without distinction of sect, come for no purpose of distraction or disorganization; with no view to advance the claims of any man for the Presidential succession; but to sit down and reason together, as men who, when agitated, have hitherto proved themselves invincible in every political contest.

Resolved, That the population, the financial,

commercial, and agricultural position of New York as the Empire State of the Republic, justify it in a commanding voice in the Democratic councils of the nation. This proud place, inherited since the time of Clinton, imposes upon her the duty of vindicating, by independent and fearless action, her Democratic bright.

Resolved, That the past has sufficiently proved to all right-minded men that nothing but personal prejudices or partisanship divide us. The present tells us that there are no material points of difference between us, and the future warns us, in language of unmistakable simplicity, that our hopes of success do not depend upon instructions, much or less they depend upon quarrels among ourselves. It is needless to recapitulate the capability of the united Democracy of New York. It is a fact so plain that every man who runs may read it in the historical records of their glorious triumphs. The duty before us is therefore clear and simple, and every man who professes democratic faith ought to make the sacrifice of his partisanship for the sake of that union and harmony upon which alone the harmony of the Union depends.

Resolved, That the 'hue and cry' of 'foreign influence' in our midst, instead of seeking to impose onerous obligations and restraints on the poor emigrant who, in his escape from tyranny and oppression, comes to contribute his material aid to the development of the resources of the country, ought rather to be directed against those pampered minions of English aristocracy whose interference with the domestic institutions of the United States has had for its sole object sectional agitation and the eventual disunion of our republic. It is against this species of foreign influence that the Democracy of New York pledge themselves always manfully to battle.

Resolved, That the Union Democracy of New York, adhering to the true American doctrine of Monroe, repudiate any line of policy which would lead to the extension of the 'life and fortunes' of the nation, all European interference with the affairs of the continent, and which will not rest to the utmost, the encroachments which are sought to be made by the allied powers of western Europe, in China, the Sandwich Islands, Central America and Cuba.

Resolved, That it is time for the Democracy of New York, in view of the absorbing policy of the allied powers of Great Britain and France, to impose a check upon their West Indian aggressions, and to define the American understanding of the line of conduct that should be pursued by us as a nation.

Resolved, therefore, That as the unanimous voice of the Union Democracy of New York, we hold the acquisition of the Island of Cuba to be of paramount importance, not only to the safety and integrity of the States, but as necessary in a geographical point of view, as was the possession of the delta of the Mississippi to the commercial greatness and honor of the country.

Resolved, That the opinions we have expressed are inseparable from patriotism, and the principles we have announced are as enduring as the Republic. If not acted on now, they will be hereafter, and must form an issue, and perhaps the sole issue, in all future political contests. Regarding, therefore, the future as fraught with events charged with the destiny and perhaps with the perpetuity, not only of the Democratic party, but of the Union itself, we invite Democrats all over the land to unite with us, and in a common cause to battle against a common enemy.

Many distinguished gentlemen who were invited to address the meeting sent apologies for their absence.

Senator Stuart, of Michigan, delivered an address which abounded with excellent advice. Chief Justice Joseph Williams, of Iowa, and Dr. Connelly also, delivered addresses.

Four things are worthy of remark in the proceedings of this meeting. The first is, that they ignore all old differences between the two divisions of the party and look to a perfect union. The second is, that they refuse to pin the faith of the New York Union Democrats to the sleeve of any man, and speak not one word about the Presidential succession.

The third is, that while they denounce the Know-nothings for their warfare against resident foreigners, they also denounce the pampered aristocracy of England for their "interference with the domestic institutions of the States"—which means "their interference" WITH SLAVERY.

The fourth is, that the New York Democrats are sagacious enough to perceive that in addition to old Democratic principles, new issues must be presented to neutralize and annihilate the miserable and fraudulent issues presented by the new secret party.

We hail the proceedings of this meeting as a sure sign that the hitherto severed Democracy of New York are experiencing a return of reason.

If they had united before, Know-nothingism would have been dead. It sprang up in New York; it has prospered on their dissensions, and they now owe it to the Democracy of the country to unite and crush the fell monster.

We hope that the ugly terms of "Hards" and "Softs" will henceforth be blotted out from the political vocabulary of New York.

THE KNOW-NOTHINGS AND RELIGION.

The Catholic Church, which is the especial object of Know-nothing hatred, has already received, and must continue to receive, great accessions of strength from the persecution which is being waged against it. Any persecution which is not conducted with exterminating force must react. This has been true at all times, everywhere, in all conditions of society, and in every stage of civilization. But reaction against persecution is more speedy and more certain and effective in civilized communities, where intercourse is prompt and easy, and amongst a free people which can express its sentiments without fear.

It is true that many grave charges have been urged against the Catholic Church, but whether these charges are true or false, one thing is certain—the Catholic Church has never in any manner improperly interfered with public affairs in this country—our people have never been injured in their rights by that Church. We are Protestant by birth, education, and habit, and we have for many years taken a humble part in political concerns, but we have never seen or suspected that we saw, any trace of Catholic interference or influence in public affairs. The attempt to fix and fasten upon that Church, which was historically the first in America to proclaim religious freedom, the charge of Jesuitical combination will not succeed. The people will not believe it. The discussion which such a charge has inaugurated will show that many things alleged as crimes against the Church of Rome are not crimes, but that they belong to a system of discipline common to all churches, and necessary to all organizations.

But this is not the worst of it. Preachers, who separate themselves from the active pursuits of life and take but little heed of the habits of men may not know, but we know that the spirit of infidelity has made rapid progress during the last few years. Speaking with some knowledge of men, and of the ways and habits of men, we say, and say with all confidence, that practical Unbelief is stronger in the United States this day than it ever has been in any civilized country, except France, for the last three hundred years. The main fact which has given impulse to this infidelity may be found in the disposition of the clergy to meddle in political affairs, and the manner in which each Church has abused the other. Now it is proposed that the Protestant shall make war against the Catholic faith.

But it is not only proposed that Protestantism should make war against Catholicism, but that Catholicism shall attack secretly, in the dark, and by means of oaths and obligations which are destructive of public faith and personal confidence. The Protestants are told to adopt the principles, and practice the corrupt morality, which is charged against the Jesuits of a former era. They are told to meet with closed doors, to take illegal oaths, to submit themselves *ac cadaver*—like a corpse—to the orders of a council, to violate the truth when commanded, to embrace all the crimes they foolishly complain of, in order to strike a blow at the Catholic Church. Do the Protestants believe in such plain nonsense and such transparent hypocrisy? If they do, their prejudices must be like the poison of an adder, which blinds the reptile whenever it flows freely.

Hitherto Protestantism has been connected in the public mind with toleration and forbearance—with freedom of discussion and liberal sentiments. If the new movement succeeds, all this will be changed—changed in the twinkling of an eye. Protestantism will then be associated with intolerance and illiberality—it will lose its hold upon the public mind and its place in the public heart of America. The infidelity which we have spoken of, seeing Christian creeds degraded in the political arena, will withdraw from its reserve and become rampant when it understands its own strength. Whatever of faith, whatever of hope, whatever of charity may be left amongst the people, will be forced by stringent necessity to ally itself with the Catholic Church. None of the virtues, which lie at the basis of the Christian creeds can associate with intolerance, persecutions, and uncharitableness. They must all, therefore, be driven into active partnership with the Catholic Church, unless the intelligent Protestant sentiment of the country rises up against the new crusade. Political offices, honors and emoluments, and temporary political interests too, are bound up with the anti-Catholic movement. Those honors, offices, emoluments and interests, are fleeting, and if the Protestant sentiment of the country consents to an alliance with them, it will drop and wither, if it does not die, whenever they perish and disappear. Believing, in our inmost heart, what we have said, we earnestly warn the Protestants of America against the course of persecution which moral infidels and political buccaners are urging them to pursue.

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proceeded on my intended cruise, having lost my efficiency as a vessel of war. Owing to the extraordinary sea qualities of the brig, the strength of her hull, spars and rigging, the exertions of my officers and crew, and the smiles of a kind Providence, we were alone saved from destruction. As soon as I edit I shall be enabled to proceed on my cruise, and carry out my instructions from the Navy Department.

"J. H. ROWAN,"
"Lieutenant Commanding."

Death of Bishop Reynolds.

We are pained to announce the death of the Right Rev. Ignatius Aloysius Reynolds, Bishop of Charleston. He expired yesterday morning, at a quarter past six, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

Bishop Reynolds was born near Bardonia, Kentucky, August 22, 1798. He came of an old Maryland family, who were among the early settlers of the then wild country of Kentucky. The good example of his parents, and their expressed wishes, led the young Ignatius to look to the church as the true sphere of his early labors. He completed his education at St. Mary's College, Baltimore, where he excelled in most branches of study—especially natural history and mathematics. After his ordination, he returned to his native State, where his merits raised him to many offices of honor and trust in the ecclesiastical government of that diocese. He was for a long time Vice-General to Bishop Flaget; Rector of St. Joseph's College, near Bardonia, and President of the Nazareth Female Institute of Kentucky. Of these well-known educational establishments, he may be considered almost the founder and father. He was consecrated Bishop of Charleston at Cincinnati, in March 1844, and entered upon his Episcopal duties in the April following.

Religious Notice.—There will be preaching in the 13th street Baptist Church both morning and evening, to-morrow, the 11th inst., on the subject of Christian Baptism, will be administered at the close of the sermon at night.

PEOPLES EDITION OF CHANNING. Works of Rev. Dr. Channing, in six volumes, bound in cloth, price \$2.50. The same six volumes bound in three. Price two dollars.

Memoirs of William Ellery Channing, 3 vols. Price \$1.50, with portrait engraved on steel.

War on the Formation of the Christian Church. A large supply of the above just received at TAYLOR & MAURY'S Bookstore, near Ninth street.

COURT OF CLAIMS, &c.

CHARLES LEE JONES, in addition to his ordinary practice in law, and as Counselor at Law, will practice in the Supreme Court of the United States and in the newly-constituted court for the investigation of claims against the United States. In the management of cases before the Supreme Court, and in the prosecution of claims before the newly-constituted Court of Claims, his father, General Walter Jones, though mostly retired from general practice, will unite with him, and do his best to advance the success of clients, by written statements and arguments, and by all other needful and proper exertions. Office 3d street, near Pennsylvania avenue. March 10—twelfth.

WANTED.—A Respectable White Woman, capable of teaching, and who can well recommended as a Seamstress, and is willing and capable of taking care of Children. Apply at this office. Mar 9—6th.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS.—Pay Rolls of Militia entitled to Land Bounty under the act of Congress of September 28, 1850, compiled from the records of the War Department, and the Muster Rolls of the Virginia Militia in the war of 1812, being a supplement to the pay rolls. A few copies for sale by F. R. FARNHAM, Mar 8—Corner Pa. av. and 11th street.

HECKERS' FARINA, prepared expressly for families, a delicate and appropriate food for all seasons, and one of the most economical, nutritious, and wholesome preparations ever brought to the table, eminently combining the gratification of the palate with ample nourishment, and the most perfect health. Strictly speaking, Heckers' Farina is neither a cereal nor a laxative, but a restorative, strengthening the digestive and absorbent system. In disorders, bilious, dyspeptic, and even in cases of cholera, when food is deemed inadmissible by the physicians, Heckers' Farina is a most salutary; and wherever known is extensively used for hospital and private relief. The preservation of health or the prevention of disease is at least as important as the curing of disease. People in health should therefore use Heckers' Farina freely, as common food, to preserve in the most perfect health.

For sale by grocers and druggists generally. Wholesale by Charles F. Pitts, 12 Commerce street, Baltimore; Dingee & Brother, 97 South Second street, S. C. Philadelphia; and by the manufacturers, Heckers & Brother, at the Croton Mills, 201 Cherry street, New York.

HECKERS' FARINA, made in double bottles, which render it light and easy to carry, is now exhibited daily at the Fair of the Metropolitan Mechanics' Institute in Washington. Mar 5—2w.

CONSERVE and Preserved Ginger and Chow-Chow, Aitken and Cheong Loong, Canton, fresh importation. For sale by SIEKEL & BROTHERS, No. 40, opposite the Centre Market.

MODERN LANGUAGES.—D. E. GROUT, a native of France, teacher of Modern Languages, especially French, Spanish, and German. Translations made with correctness and punctiliousness of French, Spanish, and German into English, and vice versa. Also, explanation and translation of medals and coins. Pennsylvania avenue, south side, between 6th and 7th streets, opposite Brown's Hotel. Furnished Rooms to rent at that place. Sep 21—4t.

MME. SCHONENBERG, TEACHER OF PIANO AND SINGING, 257 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFES. The subscriber has on exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution, two of his improved Iron Safes. The one made of tough wrought iron and plate iron, lined with chilled or case-hardened iron, secured with an inner iron grating of two inch iron rods, riveted together and bolted together with heavy screws or nuts upon the inside; not, however, passing through the outside plate. The frame or corner bars are made of angle iron, riveted to the sides and ends of the safe, thus rendering them proof against the burglar's chisel or drill, which cannot penetrate the chilled iron. The door is secured with Hall's patent burglar-proofing system, and is provided with a medal of the World's Fair, London, 1851, and in New York, 1853 and 1854. This safe is intended to be burglar proof only; but when placed within a Fire Proof vault or inside of one of Herring's Patent Fire Proof vaults, renders them both Fire and Thief Proof.

The other on exhibition, is one of Herring's celebrated Fire Proof Safes, which received the highest medal at the World's Fair, London, 1851, and are universally acknowledged to be the best protection against fire now in use.

SILAS C. HERRING, Agent, No 519, 7th street, Washington, where he keeps an assortment on hand for sale. March 2—6t.

MADEIRA NUTS, latest growth; 1 cask just received by SIEKEL & BROTHERS, No. 40, opposite Centre Market.

Books of the House of Representatives. LIBRARY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A LARGE number of books belonging to the Library of the House of Representatives have been drawn by members and by their orders, and stand charged to their accounts on the books of the library. It is important for the preservation of the files that they should be returned before the close of the session.

MATTHIAS MARTIN, Librarian of the House of Representatives. Feb 24—2w.

FORTHE SPRING TRADE.—Now opening, a large, fresh, and elegant variety of gentlemen's belongings for the spring trade, of new importations and styles and of the latest fashions. STEVEN'S, Feb 24—3t.

YORK NECK SHIRTS.—Our Assortment of Gentlemen's Dress Shirts is complete, and fits in all cases warranted at STEVEN'S, Feb 17—2t.

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Local and Personal.

"Sam."—On Thursday night, a middle-aged white man, called "Sam," who could not say, his memory being remarkably defective, whether or not he ever had a surname, was brought to the watch-house, charged with abusing himself by drinking poisonous liquors at the "tipping-shops," which the municipal corporation has not yet suppressed, notwithstanding the enactment of a law for that purpose, and the opinion of the Circuit Court affirming its constitutionality.

Sam was so good-natured, that the persons present at the watch-house amused themselves by sporting with him, in an innocent way. He represented that he fought in the Mexican war, and, after the conclusion of the treaty of peace, returned, like Cincinnati, Washington, and other distinguished warriors, to the plough; but had deserted that agricultural implement, temporarily, to visit the city in search of former comrades in arms.

"Sam" had recently visited Georgetown and Alexandria, prolonging his stay until the municipal elections were over; but whether his presence influenced the result we "don't know," though it is said by the "Natives" that a distinguished personage of the same name—"Sam"—was busily engaged in those contests, and secured their victories.

The Recess.—The gaiety, excitement, and anxiety, of the last week, during which Congress was in session, have been succeeded by almost a dead calm in public and social affairs.

Nearly all of the ex-members, and thousands of strangers, have departed; leaving hotels and boarding-houses with vacant chambers.

Fashionable "hops," and Presidential receptions, have ceased to be resumed, with all their attractive accompaniments, at "a more convenient season," or, in other words, when the next Congress shall assemble.

The only public amusements now are the Mechanics' Fair and the Circus, with the occasional delivery of a lecture; and scarcely an itinerant organ-grinder enlivens the streets with his cheap music.

That useful but much-abused class of public servants, the hack-drivers, are sharp-set for the catching of customers. The man who may, by chance, even look for half a minute at one of their idle vehicles, lines of which skirt the streets before the hotels, is sure to be surrounded with a cordon of whips, and defensed with vociferations of "hack, sir!" "a nice concern," "all ready, sir," "take you cheap," and such like exclamations.

Occurrences of this character show the death of business among the Jews.

But the mechanics will have stirring times. In addition to extensive public works, much building will be conducted on private account; preliminary arrangements having been made for that purpose.

Our citizens can willingly dispense with the excitement of politics and of fashionable gatherings, for the more profitable returns of mechanical industry, soon to be vigorously and generally prosecuted in all parts of the metropolis.

Railroad Car Brake.—The new car-brake, invented by Mr. William Loughridge, of Waverton, Maryland, will be exhibited to the public this morning, at ten o'clock, in the court-yard of the National hotel.

The merits of this invention, as will be demonstrated by the model (which is capable of carrying one ton) on a track eight feet long, are: 1. The brakes are operated by the engineer, in three seconds, affecting the hindmost brake in the train first; 2. The power can be graduated at the will of the engineer; 3. No trouble in coupling and uncoupling; 4. If the coupling breaks, each end of the train can be taken care of by means of the brakes; 5. The engineer, by this contrivance, is enabled readily to apply the exact amount of power required to avoid a collision, descend a plain, or stop for passengers.

Scientific and practical engineers speak in high terms of the peculiar merits of the invention.

The Criminal Court continues to be occupied with, comparatively, trivial cases. A poor Irish girl was tried and acquitted, yesterday morning, of the charge of theft. It appears that she is altogether honest and trustworthy, except when under the influence of alcoholic drinks. His honor Judge Crawford, delivered a friendly lecture, advising her to be more careful than hitherto of her character, and to strive to live uprightly. Justice D. Smith, the jailor, obeying the instruction of the court, restored the prisoner to liberty, by unlocking the door of the dock, and permitting her to go her way—it is hoped to "sin no more."

Inquest.—Yesterday morning, about six o'clock, a board box was found on Seventh street, near the gate of the grounds of the Smithsonian Institution, containing the body of a white female infant, carefully wrapped in clean cotton cloth. It was conveyed to the central watch-house, and the coroner summoned to hold an inquest. But the jury could ascertain no important facts in relation to the subject, and, therefore, judging from the appearance of the face of the corpse—dark purple, and almost black—they, in their verdict, expressed an opinion that the said child came to its death either by violence or neglect, from some person to them unknown.

The Capture of Juveniles.—On Thursday night, a combined force of the day and the night police captured eighteen youths, (their ages ranging from twenty to eight years,) in front of the National theatre, or circus, for disorderly conduct. They had frequently been warned of the consequences of their unlawful assemblages, but, as some of them said, they thought the officers had been joking. The party of juveniles were conveyed to the watch-house, and yesterday morning ten of them were required to pay, each, a fine of five dollars, with costs, while the remainder were released on giving the security demanded by the magistrate.

The Fair Police.—It is just to say that officers more efficient, polite, and attentive, than those who serve at the Mechanics' Fair, could not have been selected. Good order is uniformly observed. In fact, the arrangements generally are such as to afford the utmost satisfaction to the thousands of visitors every night in attendance.

Repair of Bridges.—The Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill contains an appropriation of \$10,000, for the repair of the Potomac, Navy Yard, and upper